

REMARKS

The undersigned notes with appreciation that claims 12-13 have been allowed (section 6, page 5 of the office action).

Claim 1 is amended. Claims 1 and 5-13 remain in the application.

Claims 1 and 8-10 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,198,471 to Cook. Claims 5, 7, and 11 have been rejected as being obvious over Cook in view of U.S. Patent 5,670,988 to Tickle. These rejections are traversed in view of the amendments above and remarks below. No rejection of claim 6 was lodged in the case.

In particular, claim 1 is amended to clarify that the parts holding member is directly provided on the main board, and the switch board is directly held by the parts holding member. Figure 1 shows an embodiment where the parts holding member 2 is mounted on the main board 1, and page 3, line 24 indicates that the parts holding member 2 is mounted on the main board 1. Figure 1 also shows an embodiment where the switch board 10 is held by the parts holding member 10. Page 3, lines 28 and 29 explains that the switch boards 10 are separate from the main board 1 and are provided perpendicular to the board holder portions 9. Page 5, line 18 also discusses having the parts holder hold the switch board vertically with respect to the main board.

The principal reference to Cook does not meet these requirements. In particular, in Cook the part holding member 11, 12, 105 and 110 is not directly provided on the main board 38, and the switch board 53 is not directly held by the parts holding member 11, 12, 105, and 110 such that the switch board 53 is perpendicularly provided on the main board 38 (contrast Figure 1 of Cook showing the main board 38 and Figure 3 of Cook showing the switch board 53).

Since the recited arrangement of these members in the claimed invention is completely different from what is shown in Cook, none of claims 1 and 8-10 are anticipated by Cook. Furthermore, Tickle does not make up for this deficiency. Thus, no claims would be obvious over any combination of Cook and Tickle.

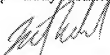
In view of the above, the rejections of claims 1 and 5-11 should now be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1 and 5 to 13 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Whitham
Reg. No. 32,635

Whitham, Curtis, Christofferson & Cook, P.C.
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, VA 20190

Tel. (703) 787-9400
Fax. (703) 787-7557

Customer No.: 30743